SDUHSD Families for Students First

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Diana PA
Yesterday at 1:42 PM ·

Will be sending a letter to the principal but my kid is only allowed to use the pronoun "They" and will get in trouble if they ask to be called what they are. ANyone else encounter anything like this? Since everyone is asking it is CCA

29 85 Comments

Like Comment Send

All comments

Caroline Miller Marquez
Which school?
Like Reply 1d 2

Diana PA Author
updated original
Like Reply 1d

Marcel Carlson Chambers Admin
And so it begins... VOTE people!
Like Reply 1d 11

Jennifer Harris
Can you please let us know which school this is? You can DM if that's more comfortable. Thanks
Like Reply 1d 2

Sondra Konigsfeld
Jennifer Harris we all have a right to know .. please share
Like Reply 1d 2

Natalie Alexandra
Please tell us which one - DM also please
Like Reply 1d

Beth Dunford
Like Reply 1d 3

January Black
Why? This is wrong on so many levels. It's bad enough people get dragged for not using the correct pronoun, but now kids are forced to be be called a pronoun that they don't want.

Like Reply 1d Edited 7

Diana PA Author
I updated it in the original post. CCA though

Like Reply 1d

Maria Murphy Delaney
This makes no sense I thought the whole point was that people were supposed to be called what they wanted

Like Reply 1d 9

Roxy Kaiser
They can't force people to address people. What if a person is offended my being called "they"? Like what If they have a different pronoun? It's unbelievable. Where is the pronoun choice??

Like Reply 1d 2

Liz Yarnall Ingle
Wow

Like Reply 1d

Tracy Gordon
SDA parent. My son said one of his teachers asked what pronoun he wanted to be addressed. He told her, he/him and left it at that.

Like Reply 1d 4

Diana PA Author
Tracy Gordon That is how it should be

Like Reply 1d 5

January Black
Tracy Gordon my son too (also SDA) his English teacher asked her students to introduce themselves with their preferred pronouns, my son just gave his name and so did several other kids.

Like Reply 1d 8

Michael Allman
January Black Good for him (assuming him!) Just because you are asked, doesn't mean you have to answer.

Like Reply 4h

Melanie Kabo
Tracy Gordon two of my boys had to ask me what their pronouns are. That also speaks to the level of English they are taught if they don't know what a pronoun is. 🙄

Like Reply 1d 7

Tracy Gordon
Melanie Kabo 🤦‍♀️ it's so messed up. Why are the teachers putting the kids on the spot like this

Like Reply 1d 6

Mafalu Mafalu
Melanie Kabo 😳

Like Reply 23h

Susan Siljander
Tracy Gordon That is a very good point - the admin is wanting to make the trans more comfortable - but what about others? Are they also doing in middle school?

Like Reply 23h 3

Jessie Marie
Susan Siljander Yes, middle School too. 😡

Like Reply 23h

Melanie Kabo

Like Reply 17h

Christina Dube
Melanie Kabo lol!

Like Reply 4h

Michael Allman
Tracy Gordon They shouldn't be put on the spot. If a student wants to be addressed a certain way, they are free to ask others to do so. If a student doesn't want to state their pronouns, then they don't have to and shouldn't be asked. Let others take a guess. If they guess wrong, the student can correct them if they want to, or just let it go if they want to. My guess is that the speaker would probably guess right more than 95% of the time, but if they are wrong, the student can tell them (if they wish).

Like Reply 3h

Tamara Daul
Regarding the level of teaching: 34 countries are ahead of the United States! Guess who's #1?

Like Reply 1h Edited

Reply to Melanie Kabo...

Press Enter to post.

Kelly Murphy Friis
Shouldn't even be a question..period. This is all so absurd!

Like Reply 16h 4

Reply to Tracy Gordon...

Press Enter to post.

Jason James
What if someone chooses preferred pronouns such as: "El Macho / El Mucho"? Or the infamous combo: "I / She / it " (but you have to say them together..... you know what it says.) policy-wise, no one should be compelled to say anything. and if so, I'll go with I/She/ it and will compel you to say it aloud.

Like Reply 1d Edited 14

Susan Siljander
Jason James My pronoun is "Grand Poohbah"

Like Reply 23h 5

Lori Larocque Admin
Jason James FTW 🙌! Love it! Almost spit out my ☕ 😆

Like Reply 7h 2

Michael Allman
Jason James The sad part is that if a student said that their pronouns were I / she / it, they would probably be charged with some hate crime!

Like Reply 3h

Reply to Jason James...

Press Enter to post.

Melanie Kabo
The whole class can't be questioning their gender. That teacher is wrong on so many levels. What about trans students who don't go by "they/them" but he/she, etc. this teacher seems to be calling all students nonbianary.

Like Reply 1d 6

Dollie Feld
That's why our public school system is failing our children.. no child would remember a multitude of so many different pronouns if children chose different ones. This is crazy.

Like Reply 23h 4

Jennifer Ann
This has to be the stupidest sh*t I have ever encountered. Imbeciles.

Like Reply 23h 5

Like Reply 23h

Susan O'Brien Mitchell
Seriously?!? My son (8th grade) had one teacher ask for his pronouns on his class syllabus, but that's all I'm aware of. It was open-ended; no 'wrong' answers. As an aside, about 95% of parents/kids on the OUTDOOR tour at CCA wore masks last year when that wasn't even required (January). Make what you will of that, but it was a turnoff for me and affected my opinion of the school. This just cements it. Sad.

Like Reply 23h 4

Nikki Ranglas Boldt
Was this in a certain class?

Like Reply 23h

Susan Siljander
Diana - I still think we missed your comment. So, your child (you didn't say their sex) cannot be called a he/him or she/her if they want? Everyone in the school must be a they/them?

Like Reply 23h

Diana PA Author
Susan Siljander Everyone in one specific class. This is HER only class like this.

Like Reply 23h

Susan Siljander
Diana PA Wow! I am not sure everyone above caught that. I think they were just reacting to having to give your desired pronouns - but no - they are all "they"s. If it is English you can explain in your letter that it is grammatically incorrect to call a single person they if you know their sex! I am really sorry about this. I don't mean to make a joke. Please let us know how it turned out.

Like Reply 23h 4

January Black
Susan Siljander I caught that, and I think it's awful that kids will get in trouble for not wanting to go by they. Leave these poor kiddos alone, they have gone through enough.

Like Reply 22h 6

Karla Renshaw Deerinck
Susan Siljander I guess grammar rules don't apply anymore. Wonder if SAT/ACT tests will follow this incorrect grammar?

Like Reply 20h

Misty Forrest Deneen
Karla Renshaw Deerinck no more SAT's 😀 and I don't know maybe this teacher just trying to make it easier, call everyone THEY and less are offended. You call a her a him accidentally and can get fired!!!

Like Reply 19h

Loretta Boatcher
Can you please explain what you mean by "get in trouble" ? I'd really like to know what that entails first and foremost

Like Reply 23h

Diana PA Author
Loretta Boatcher As would I. She just came home upset and a lot of choice words came out. Waiting till she gets home and her father and I will speak with her in order to word a proper letter.

Like Reply 23h 3

Loretta Boatcher
Diana PA oh dear. That's upsetting! Keep us posted...I'm quite certain this "requirement" was not spelled out in any of our annual notifications or conduct agreements. Can't imagine it's somewhere in any edCode either.

Like Reply 21h Edited

Susan Siljander
Jason James - And I want you to chime in because you are the writer. But it has always been an English practice to use they/them if you are unsure of gender (even if it is singular). So, there are times you would call a boy a they - if you didn't know. Like instructions for how one child should line up for lunch. "They should push in their chair and join the back of the line." I just say this - because there are times when "they" has nothing to do with being transgender. I worry this is getting lost.

Like Reply 23h 3

Karla Renshaw Deerinck
Susan Siljander it's simple rules of proper grammar "they/them" is plural.

Like Reply 20h

Susan Siljander
Karla Renshaw Deerinck not always. The case above is the exception.

Like Reply 18h

Jason James
Susan, as a writer, using They/ them to describe an individual is incorrect. It gives the presence of multiple individuals, which is not actually the case. In this Circumstance, we are addressing or referring to an individual. More appropriate would be "it" for a non-specified gender, but that becomes too detached and may be viewed as insulting — which is what I find they / them to be. But I see the pluralization of an individual as stripping away individually into collectivism, which is ironic for someone who purportedly wants to be viewed for individuality.

Now someone else will say, well, times have changed and so does the dictionary. And it's at that I'll point out that Snoop Doggy Dog (Aka Snoop Dog) managed to get "Fo shizzle" added as a dictionary definition, meaning for sure. So, if some administrator in the school district asks whether I know how to use pronouns, I'll say — fo shizzle. And that will be proper grammar, at least according to the dictionary... and Snoop Dog. But try using that in a job interview or at your next team meeting at work. Fo shizzle, I think "they" won't.

Like Reply 15h Edited 6

Michael Allman
Jason James When I need a good laugh to ease the tension of my day, I know I can always count you you! Fo shizzle!

Like Reply 3h

Christeen Macceca
We have been dealing with this at SDA for years

Like Reply 23h

Marcel Carlson Chambers Admin
And so it begins. Vote, people.

Like Reply 23h 7

Hugh Stewart
Perhaps the school district should watch the movie, "What is a woman." Might be an eye opening experience.

Like Reply 21h 8

Misty Forrest Deneen
Hugh Stewart 💯

Like Reply 19h

Kim Means
Wow, had never heard of this "documentary", but reading about it and quotes taken from it suggests a concerning amount of transphobic intent and mockery of a group of people. So we're wanting to marginalize and invalidate a population of students within our schools now?

Like Reply 4h

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means No, that isn't what the movie is about. It's about finding the truth.

Like Reply 4h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart and what's "the truth"?

Like Reply 4h

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means a woman is an adult human female. I would suggest you watch the movie rather than read reviews to form your own opinion. I'm not transphobic nor homophobic. My brother goes by Jennifer Ball cracker on Saturday nights and I still love him. I do have an issue with the furry thing. If my son said he identified as a cat and needed to defecate in a litter box I would probably take him to the humane society and let him make a real decision.

Like Reply 4h 2

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means

Like Reply 4h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart Matt Walsh has stated that he's waging an "all-out assault" against what he labels "gender ideology". He had called gender transitioning "child abuse" and says that transgender medical interventions should be illegal at any age.
Just wondering what point you were trying to make regarding having district officials watch his movie- what's the intention there?

Like Reply 4h

Hugh Stewart
These kids are not all transgender. They are just saying it. If there is a kid who is transgender then they should be afforded all the protection available to them. I have seen too many kids saying that there transgender for some type of gain even though they are not transgender. The furry thing is a joke and any parent that supports this stupidity should have their head examined. I understand that there is a big problem with transgender people feeling accepted and my heart goes out to them but if kids are going to lie about it then I have a problem with it. As for Matt Walsh, the guy is brilliant in his performance exposing the sheer stupidity of all the people he interviewed. It's disgusting what these doctors and insurance companies are doing to these poor kids.

Like Reply 4h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart soooo, who are you to say which kid is "lying" and which one isn't? With the suicide rate within the transgender youth population being so high, what would be the harm in supporting that child where they're at at the moment? If the teen is going through a phase, then they'll transition out of that phase in their own time. If they aren't, then at least they've had support throughout the experience. In each outcome, the child knows they're loved and supported either way. Taking Matt's (and it sounds like your) non-expert and non-mental health perspective, we should invalidate and shut down kids' experiences regardless, because it's "abusive" and they "might" be lying.
Again, it's marginalizing and possibly placing a population of students in mental health danger- and I am a mental health worker and have worked with trans teens. Why put a struggling child down when you can support them? And why is a child's orientation any of your

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means you just validated my point by saying they're going through a phase.

Like Reply 3h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart I said "IF" it's a phase they're exploring. Not all kids who question their gender identity come to the conclusion that they're trans. My point was that it's important, especially when you look at self-harm and suicide statistics within the trans youth community and how it corresponds to rejection and invalidation, to support children as they're trying to figure themselves out. If they decide later that they want to transition, great. If they explore their identity and remain cisgender, also great. But shouldn't we support them throughout this instead of contributing to depression and suicidality? And again, why is a child's gender expression YOUR business?

Like Reply 3h Edited

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means because the school district seems to be imposing this issue on us with pronouns. For those of us that aren't interested in dealing with this issue because we don't have an issue with it in the first place are finding it annoying and confusing/Comical for our kids. I see that you're very passionate about this issue and I respect that. Keep up the good fight.

Like Reply 3h

Michael Allman
Hugh Stewart Hugh! 😂😂😂😂😂😂Too much! 😂😂😂😂

Like Reply 3h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart as the op said, she hasn't really gotten the chance to speak to her child about what exactly happened. Do we HONESTLY think a teacher is forcing kids to identify as a they? Forcing? Let's use common sense here. Sorry this issue is annoying and comical to you, but it's painful and dangerous for these kids, which isn't funny.

Like Reply 3h

Hugh Stewart
Kim Means if the teacher is asking students to use pronouns for certain students I see that as a problem for my son and other students. Society and this country have gotten weak because of this issue and other issues not to be mentioned at this time. If you're religious, then you know about Adam and Eve. It's not Adam, Eve and Pat. You talked about suicides. Unfortunately that is going to happen. People who are not male or female have gotten a raw deal and will never be able to live their best life. If they choose suicide as an answer then it is on them. Personally, there are a some groups of people out there that I approve of suicide as their answer. Rapists, murderers, pedophiles, and this group. I'm not trying to be funny or unsympathetic but rather humane.

Like Reply 2h

Hugh Stewart

Like Reply 2h

Kim Means
Hugh Stewart wow. Enlightening to see that you would risk child suicide in order to keep your kids more comfortable in not having to remember pronouns. This is getting beyond gross. I'm out.

Like Reply 2h

Heather Shadley-Tovar
Hugh Stewart How does it harm your son to identify as he/him? I genuinely don't understand.

I see it the same as when teachers ask for preferred names. It doesn't cause harm to my daughter if she says "I go by [legal name]," while David next to her says he goes by "Dave."It's a way for the teachers to show respect to their students.
I don't see how your son saying he identifies as he/him causes harm. Are you concerned it might cause him discomfort to know that other students know he identifies male?

Like Reply 1h

Reply to Kim Means...

Press Enter to post.

Hugh Stewart
Heather Shadley-Tovar I was never really referring to my son. I think I will refer to Jennifer Ann's comment. This has to be the stupidest sh*t I have ever encountered. Imbeciles.

Like Reply 34m

Heather Shadley-Tovar
Hugh Stewart Excuse me. Are you directing "imbeciles" at those of us in this group with whom you disagree? Or the topic in general?

Like Reply 15m

Hugh Stewart
You would have to ask Jennifer Ann that question

Like Reply 14m

Hugh Stewart
The topic itself

Like Reply 13m

Hugh Stewart
Heather Shadley-Tovar and any parent who supports the furry child.

Like Reply 13m

Diana PA Author
Hugh Stewart are kids who aren't toddlers dressing up like animals?

Like Reply 12m

Heather Shadley-Tovar
Hugh Stewart I'm sorry. I don't know who that is, but I appreciate that the name calling wasn't directed at particular individuals.

Like Reply 11m

Hugh Stewart
Diana PA yes, 😮

Like Reply 10m

Reply to Hugh Stewart...

Press Enter to post.

View 1 more reply

Reply to Hugh Stewart...

Press Enter to post.

Karlyn Clifton Bornholdt
I keep wondering why this is school. I think it makes things worse, not better.

Like Reply 18h

Michael Allman
Diana PA Will you please forward me a copy of the email you sent the principal, along with any responses you receive. Thanks.

michael.allman@sduhsd.net

Like Reply 4h Edited

Kelly Harless
Diana PA, if true, that is shocking and disappointing. I thought schools were moving toward allowing students to use whatever pronoun(s) they wish. Is it possible your student wants to use an inflammatory pronoun and the school offered "they" as an alternative? Please provide additional detail and a copy of the correspondence. Depending on the details I'd be outraged, too, and may be willing to advocate on your student's behalf, but need more info

Like **Reply** 1h

Heather Shadley-Tovar
Diana PA. Have you had a chance to speak with your daughter? Did she provide further clarification?

If it's true that the students are being forced to identify as a gender that they are not, that is an inappropriate way to advocate on behalf of trans/non-binary students. The appropriate admin at CCA should be made aware.
However, it's also fair to ask the teacher for clarification before condemning the teacher. I would want that amount of respect in my workplace. I would imagine we all would.

Like **Reply** 1h 3

Write an answer...

Press Enter to post.